



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

09/784,660

02/15/2001

M. Salahuddin Khan

N0084 US

2233

37583 7590 05/29/2009
NAVTEQ NORTH AMERICA, LLC
425 West RANDOLPH STREET
SUITE 1200, PATENT DEPT
CHICAGO, IL 60606

EXAMINER

ARMSTRONG, ANGELA A

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2626

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

05/29/2009

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/784,660	Applicant(s) KHAN ET AL.	
	Examiner ANGELA A. ARMSTRONG	Art Unit 2626	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 February 2009.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18, 20 and 21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18, 20 and 21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

This Office Action is in response to the amendment filed February 24, 2009, amending claim 20. Currently claims 1-18 and 20-21 are pending.

Response to Amendment

1. Applicant's request for reconsideration of the finality of the rejection of the last Office action is persuasive and, therefore, the finality of that action is withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. The indicated allowability of claims 1-18 is withdrawn in view of the newly discovered reference(s) to Tachimori (US Patent No. 6,718,304). Rejections based on the newly cited reference(s) follow.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

3. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

Claims 1-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. Claims 1-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because they merely manipulate an abstract idea without a claimed limitation to a practical application. The claimed invention, a series of steps to be performed on a computer, simply manipulates an abstract idea without a claimed limitation to the practical application, where practical application may be shown by a) physical transformation or b) a useful, concrete and tangible result.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

5. Claims 1-5, 7, 14-15, and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wakisaka (US Patent No. 6,112,174) in view of Tachimori (US Patent No. 6,718,304) and further in view of Nakaya (PAJ 2000-074685).

Wakisaka discloses a recognition dictionary system structure and changeover method of speech recognition system for car navigation. Regarding claims 1, 7, 14, and 21, Wakisaka discloses a method of providing automatic speech recognition in a navigation system (col. 3, lines 19-23) comprising: determining a current position of a vehicle in which the navigation system is installed (col. 5, lines 9-34) and forming a new speech recognition list by adding names of geographic features located in proximity to the current position of the vehicle (Figures 3A and 3B; col. 6, line 57 to col. 7, line 7). Wakisaka teaches changing the dictionary based on the location of the vehicle but fails to teach the change is based on the distance exceeding a threshold. Tachimori teaches determining whether a distance from the current position of the vehicle to another position associated with a previous speech recognition word list exceeds a threshold (col. 8, lines 39-45). It would have been obvious to implement the teachings of Tachimori in the system of Wakisaka, since determining whether a distance from a current position to another position of a different recognition word list exceeds a threshold is a known technique used in a speech recognition navigation system for improving the word list updates/changes processing in navigation systems. Wakisaka and Tachimori does not teach, forming a new speech recognition word list by adding names of geographic features located in

Art Unit: 2626

proximity to the current position of the vehicle to a plurality of words that correspond to a collection of geographic features selected without regard to proximity to the current position of the vehicle. Nakaya teaches a retrieval method for a mobile unit in a navigation system, in which names only of nationally noted places and facilities are stored in a partial data base for remote areas from the position of its own vehicle and names of places and facilities of low degree of note or the name of intersections are stored additionally in the partial data base for the peripheral areas. Data to be stored in the partial data base is updated by a data updating means depending on the positional variation of its own vehicle. This would have made it obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art of speech signal processing at the time of the invention to apply the method/teachings of Nakaya to the device/method of Wakisaka et al for the purpose of improving recognition rate, as suggested by Nakaya.

6. Regarding claim 2, the combination of Wakisaka, Tachimori and Nakaya teaches the speech recognition word list contains a subset of all available names for geographic features located in a geographic area represented by a geographic database (col.5, lines 44-56).

7. Regarding claim 3, the combination of Wakisaka, Tachimori and Nakaya teaches determining a location associated with the new speech recognition word list (col.5, lines 9-56).

8. Regarding claims 4, 8, and 15, the combination of Wakisaka, Tachimori and Nakaya teaches the plurality of words that correspond to the collection of geographic features selected without regard to proximity to the current position of the vehicle include popular or important destinations (Nakaya's nationally noted places and facilities).

Art Unit: 2626

9. Regarding claim 5, the combination of Wakisaka, Tachimori and Nakaya teaches continuing to determine the current position of the vehicle as the vehicle travels along roads in a geographic area (Col.5, lines 9-56; col. 6, line 57 to col. 7, line 7; Figures 3A, 3B).

10. Claims 6, 9-13, and 16-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wakisaka (US Patent No. 6,112,174) in view of Tachimori (US Patent No. 6,718,304).

Wakisaka discloses a recognition dictionary system structure and changeover method of speech recognition system for car navigation. Regarding claims 6, 12, and 20, Wakisaka discloses a method of providing automatic speech recognition (via a speech recognition system) in a navigation system (col. 3, lines 19-23) comprising: determining a current position of a vehicle in which the navigation system is installed (col. 5, lines 9-34) and forming a new speech recognition list (via a software program in the CPU or microcomputer 703) by adding names of geographic features located in proximity to the current position of the vehicle (Figures 3A and 3B; col. 6, line 57 to col. 7, line 7). Wakisaka teaches changing the dictionary based on the location of the vehicle but fails to teach the change is based on the distance exceeding a threshold. Tachimori teaches determining whether a distance from the current position of the vehicle to another position associated with a previous a speech recognition word list exceeds a threshold (col.8, lines 39-45). It would have been obvious to implement the teachings of Tachimori in the system of Wakisaka, since determining whether a distance from a current position to another position of a different recognition word list exceeds a threshold is a known technique used in a speech recognition navigation system for improving the word list updates/changes processing in navigation systems.

11. Regarding claims 9 and 13, the combination of Wakisaka and Tachimori teaches the speech recognition word list contains a subset of all available names for geographic features located in a geographic area represented by a geographic database (col.5, lines 44-56).
12. Regarding claim 10, the combination of Wakisaka and Tachimori teaches continuing to determine the current position of the vehicle as the vehicle travels along roads in a geographic area (Col.5, lines 9-56; col. 6, line 57 to col. 7, line 7; Figures 3A, 3B).
13. Regarding claim 11, the combination of Wakisaka and Tachimori teaches determining a location associated with the new speech recognition word list (col.5, lines 9-56).
14. Regarding claims 16-18, the combination of Wakisaka and Tachimori teaches a geographic database (Figure 3B) and a spatial name index (Figures 3, 7; col. 9, lines 6-21).

Response to Arguments

15. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-18 and 20-21 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ANGELA A. ARMSTRONG whose telephone number is (571)272-7598. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 11:30-8:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richemond Dorvil can be reached on 571-272-7602. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2626

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Angela A Armstrong/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2626